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(*b*) whether any instructions have been issued by the Government for the implementation of the programme and, if so, what it is?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes. Under the programme as approved by the Government, 20,000 sterilisations are targetted for the City within a period of three years and a similar target in selected villages in block areas in the mofussil.

(*b*) Copies of the proceedings of the Government which contain the instructions are placed in the Library of the Legislature.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : What is the effect of this sterilisation?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Once a person is sterilised, there cannot be any production.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Can the Hon. Minister tell us the steps taken to carry out such schemes in the rural areas?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : In rural areas also there is a programme, but more intensive campaign is in the City.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Have the Government received any objection from any section of the population in India or in our State regarding this family planning?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The objections are going down now. Formerly, objection came mostly from the Catholics and the Muslims. But, now, the rural people are in favour of this. Even the ordinary uneducated people are in favour of this, because it has a wholesome effect on their economic set-up. Therefore, there is not much of opposition, though there may be a little bit here and there."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Is the Hon. Minister aware of a case where, after so-called sterilisation, twins were born? (Laughter)

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : A doubt arose. I consulted a doctor. He told me that the sterilisation must have been done on the wrong person. (Renewed laughter)

*Eradication of smallpox*

* 164 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any scheme under investigation of the Government for the eradication of smallpox in the State; and

(*b*) if so, the details and the estimated cost thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) A paper [a] is placed on the table of the House.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 571 infra.

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : While congratulating the Government on this eradication move, may I know whether the scheme is based on the model of any experiment conducted elsewhere?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : There is no need for much of experiment. The only way of combating this disease is to vaccinate and re-vaccinate people. If that is done, then the disease can be eradicated. Such a thing is being done in other countries and they have eradicated it. Now, the programme is to vaccinate, and re-vaccinate all people. Now, we are going to take up the Chingleput district and the City for intensive vaccination.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Has this scheme been actually worked out in other countries and has smallpox been thus eradicated?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, that is what they say. In many countries smallpox has been absolutely eradicated. The most fertile places for smallpox in the East are India and Pakistan.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : கடந்த இரண்டொரு மாதங்களாக இந்த வைசூரி நோய் சென்னையில் மிக அதிகமாகப் பரவியிருக்கிறதென்று கனம் அமைச்சர் அவர்கள் கவனத்திற்குக் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டதா ? அதைத் தடுக்க என்ன நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கப்பட்டன ?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : மிக அதிகமென்பதை ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள மாட்டேன். வெயில் காலம் வந்தால் அதிகமாவது வழக்கம். அதற்காக இன்னும் இரண்டொரு நாளில் தீவிரமாக " வாக்சினேஷன் " செய்ய ஏற்பாடு செய்திருக்கிறோம்.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : May I know whether the vaccine lymph that is used for smallpox has been assayed from time to time in order to maintain the virulence or potency of the vaccine? This must be assayed from time to time as the original virus deteriorates in quality as the process goes on.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Now, under the present practice, there is no scope for deterioration because they are freezing it. It can keep on for some time. We can use such lymph quite safely.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : What I mean is this. In spite of the freezing and all the processes of technique, vaccine is likely to deteriorate. All biologists agree on the point that it must be tested on animals from time to time in order to find out the potency of the lymph.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Constant experiment is going on.. Now, we are trying to see how long it can be kept without deterioration.